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STATE FOR INL/AAE (JUDITH CAMPBELL), DS/IP/EUR, EUR/ACE, G/TIP,
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TAGS: [SNAR](#) [KCRM](#) [ASEC](#) [EAID](#) [MD](#)

SUBJECT: FY2009 Project Proposals for INL Law Enforcement
And Criminal Justice System Development Projects - Chisinau

REF: SECSTATE 53341

¶1. Summary: Post believes the best use of FSA/INL funds for law enforcement in Moldova will combine technical and training assistance to strengthen institutional as well as individual capacities. This cable outlines a program for using FY2009 funds to provide an array of projects for the Government of Moldova (GOM). This assistance is designed to improve the ability of the Moldovan criminal justice sector to competently investigate and prosecute public corruption, financial crimes, trafficking in persons, and other serious crimes while adhering to international standards for due process at all stages of the proceedings. Additionally, these funds will complement existing Embassy programs focusing on trafficking in persons, and will help develop basic police capabilities in Moldova. Law enforcement capacity development will be complemented with consultative guidance to improve Moldova's criminal code and criminal procedure code, along with basic and continuing legal education to raise the professionalism of investigators, prosecutors and judges. Post requests INL concurrence for the use of \$1,380,000 for projects as outlined in this message. End summary.

Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶2. Title, cost, and priority are as follows:

--Title: Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) Project

--Estimated Cost: \$755,600

--Priority: Priority one out of four projects

Background to the Request

¶3. The Department of Justice's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT) undertook this program in Moldova in late FY03, placing the first Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) at the U.S. Embassy in Chisinau. To support our Embassy's MSP priorities, the RLA will continue to assist Moldovan legal and law enforcement communities in areas that have been identified as the highest priorities. This includes reforming and building capacity of the Procuracy (Prosecutor General's Office--PGO), both directly and through the National Institute of Justice, to ensure the Procuracy's effective oversight of investigations and prosecutions of public

corruption, trafficking in persons and other complex crimes such as money laundering and cybercrime, which often span international borders.

Reform and Support of the Prosecutorial Service

14. The Moldovan Procuracy continues to be beset by vestiges of its Soviet past. Nevertheless, there are some hopeful signs for progress. The July 29 parliamentary elections have transferred majority control from the Party of Communists to a coalition of non-Communist parties that will seek to reform the Prosecutor's General's Office. Previously, in March 2009, the Parliament passed a new law on the Prosecutorial Service which provides a solid basis for building greater capacity and strengthening the role of the Procuracy. Some of the main features of this law include: expanding the role of prosecutor in witness protection decisions; giving prosecutors a more active role in overseeing pre-trial detention and compliance with human rights obligations; changing the selection process for candidates seeking jobs as prosecutors, making the majority of positions subject to competitive selection through the National Justice Institute rather than directly through the PGO; expanding the role of Procuracy in developing anti-crime strategies and formulating new legislation; creating the Superior Council of Prosecutors (analogous to the Superior Council of Magistrates) which will be responsible for the administration and management of the Procuracy, including oversight of the Disciplinary Board; and mandating continuing legal education for prosecutors in the amount of 40 hours a year. These expanded responsibilities have prompted the Prosecutor General to request assistance in implementing the new law. Such assistance is crucial, especially in view of recent reports revealing "widespread" ill-treatment of detainees by police (UN Special Rapporteur's Report dated 12 February 2009) and a finding that "the problem of ill-treatment" of detainees by police is "neither new nor unknown" (Report by Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, dated 17 July 2009).

15. The RLA will assist the Prosecutor General's Office in implementing the new law. This project will have particular significance if the new government makes personnel changes in the Prosecutor General's Office, as is anticipated. The RLA will also work with Moldovan authorities to ensure Moldova's compliance with international norms under treaties such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the UN Convention against Corruption and the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (including its Protocols on Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons). Such reforms may include harmonization of laws as well as adjustments in institutional structures and practices regarding, for example, pretrial detention and plea bargaining.

Corruption and Financial Crime

16. Moldova is plagued by extensive and systemic corruption that threatens its continued development and, ultimately, the establishment of a viable democratic system with a fully functioning market economy. A 2009 survey regarding corruption levels in Moldova reported that the public perceived policemen, customs officials,

prosecutors and judges to be among the top five professions most likely to be involved in corrupt practices. The absence of appropriate transparency and accountability within government bodies

in Moldova, particularly within law enforcement, hinders effectiveness and further perpetuates corruption. To combat its acute level of corruption, Moldovan legal and law enforcement professionals must develop modern methods of investigation and prosecution and establish new roles and responsibilities for members of the procuracy, judiciary and defense bar.

17. The Center for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption (CCECC or the Center), created in 2002, reports directly to the Prime Minister rather than to the Ministry of Interior (MOI) or the Prosecutor General. The Center has a full complement of investigative and law enforcement powers; prosecutorial authority is carried out by the specialized Anti-Corruption Office which is co-located with the CCECC. Under the auspices of the Millennium Challenge Corporation/Threshold Country Plan, an RLA was assigned to work with the CCECC on a number of initiatives designed to improve the CCECC's effectiveness. Key components included reorganization, changes in hiring and retention practices, establishment of a civilian monitoring board, and creation of a proactive system to detect corruption.

18. The project's conclusion in early 2009 has now left a gap in technical assistance to the CCECC. The RLA will carry on with these efforts to ensure sustainability. Based on the results of these projects and prior RLA initiatives, the RLA will develop and conduct appropriate training programs for investigators, prosecutors and judges to improve their capacity to handle increasingly complex cases of public corruption and financial crime. These training programs will have greater impact with a more reform-minded government in place.

Trafficking in Persons

19. Moldova is a source, and to a much lesser extent, a transit and destination country for young girls and women trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation and men trafficked for labor. As a state party to various European and international instruments, including the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Trafficking Protocol (which Moldova ratified in November of 2005, in part as a result of the work of the RLA program), Moldova is obligated to implement laws and procedures to address these serious crimes. Indeed, it continues to be under great pressure from the U.S. and other international donors to demonstrate concrete progress in combating trafficking, or risk losing substantial non-humanitarian foreign aid.

10. Although the Criminal Code was revised in summer 2002 to address trafficking in persons (TIP) and related crimes, inexperience hinders its implementation. Judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers continue to lack the proficiency to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate complex transnational crimes such as trafficking in humans. Accordingly, a continuing focus of the RLA will be helping improve Moldovan capacity to address and punish trafficking crimes.

This will entail expanding the capacity of Moldovan officials to cooperate with their counterparts across international borders both in exchanging information and in protecting and repatriating victims.

¶11. In implementing these projects, the RLA will also continue to coordinate closely with other USG and international assistance providers, as a way of maximizing the effectiveness of justice-sector assistance programs operating in Moldova.

Goals -----

¶12. As noted above, the RLA program will focus its assistance efforts on helping the GOM to modernize and strengthen the Prosecutorial Service, and continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons and public corruption. The RLA will also encourage related anti-money laundering and criminal procedure reform. Specifically, the RLA will develop training programs aimed at preparing prosecutors to be better able to successfully handle cases of public corruption, human trafficking and other serious crimes such as money laundering. The

RLA will encourage Moldovan authorities to undertake legislative reforms, such as criminal procedure amendments, to enhance such investigations and prosecutions. These efforts directly reflect and support our Mission Strategic Plan (MSP) goals of strengthening the rule of law, reducing corruption, improving the business climate, and promoting Moldovan preparedness for European integration

Project Description -----

¶13. Project Component #1: Support for Reform of the Prosecutorial Service:

--The RLA, along with other experts, will provide technical assistance to the Prosecutorial Service to help streamline the structure of the Procuracy in order to suit a more adversarial criminal process. This will include consulting and advising on institutional development of the various components of the Prosecutorial Service, including the newly formed Superior Council of Prosecutors.

--The RLA will provide training to encourage the use of plea bargaining; develop cooperation in international legal assistance; develop an internship program for new graduates of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) that will strengthen the capacity of the

Procuracy as an institution while also improving the skills and professional development of its prosecutors. Initiatives such as these will benefit the prosecutorial process by increasing its efficiency and effectiveness, and will give prosecutors tools needed

to help develop more complex cases by facilitating the cooperation of co-defendants and co-conspirators in cases that are especially complex, or that involve multi-layered criminal organizations. A key emphasis of this assistance will be to develop a core group of highly capable Moldovan trainers to ensure long-term sustainability.

¶14. Project Component #2: Support for Combating Public Corruption and Financial Crime:

--The RLA will work with Moldovan law enforcement and the CCECC to

provide timely and effective expert legal assistance aimed at the use of anti-corruption investigative tools and strategies. As needed, the RLA will work closely with other partners to help the GOM implement the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Plan.

¶15. The RLA's proposed support for anti-corruption efforts will consist of a three-pronged approach, designed to increase the capabilities of the GOM to pursue corruption cases:

--Based on past initiatives and experience, RLA will provide training to strengthen investigative and prosecutorial capacity to pursue corruption cases successfully. Practical workshops will address the fundamentals of investigating and prosecuting public corruption, including effective criminal procedure tools, prosecutor-investigator teamwork, and trial advocacy skills.

--The RLA will assist GOM officials in implementing laws aimed at improving the prevention, detection and prosecution of corrupt practices; if needed, RLA will assist in drafting changes to existing laws.

--The RLA will provide guidance on anti-money laundering tools such as asset forfeiture initiatives.

¶16. Project Component #3: Enhancing Capacity to Combat Trafficking in Persons:

The RLA's anti-TIP program follows a three-pronged approach designed to increase the capabilities of law enforcement to pursue trafficking cases successfully:

--The RLA will continue to develop targeted, technical assistance for judges, prosecutors and investigators on TIP, including training that emphasizes education, sensitivity and skills development. This program will be directed at regional TIP prosecutors, investigators and courts, as well as central authorities in Chisinau.

--The RLA will provide ongoing consultation and technical assistance to develop further the CCTIP, participating as an instructor as needed. The RLA will assist the CCTIP prosecutors to integrate successfully into the CCTIP structure to create a task force approach to TIP. The RLA will continue to provide guidance in the area of witness protection and security, addressing practical, legal, and legislative concerns.

--The RLA will also work with appropriate legislators and policy-makers to make the amendments to criminal law and procedure legislation necessary to investigate and prosecute trafficking cases more effectively. For example, such amendments will seek to address with greater clarity the role of the victim/witness in the process and to harmonize Moldovan legislation with the Government's obligations under international agreements.

Performance Indicators

¶17. In view of the overlapping and interrelated nature of the three components above (reform of the Prosecutorial Service, anti-corruption and anti-trafficking in persons efforts), the RLA program will pursue an integrated, holistic approach in addressing these key

areas. Accordingly, the following performance measures are listed together instead of being separated into subcategories.

--The NIJ and Procuracy develop and establish a continuing legal education program for prosecutors which covers the major substantive

areas of criminal law as well as trial advocacy skills. Moldovan trainers play increasing roles and responsibility in developing and

delivering continuing legal education for prosecutors and related training for law enforcement officials.

--Prosecutors begin to make better use of the plea bargaining law as a tool to raise its efficiency and effectiveness.

--Prosecutors ensure adherence to international standards for due process under the relevant conventions and Moldovan law.

--Moldova's witness protection system begins to function in line with the new witness protection law and this helps to strengthen investigations and prosecutions in TIP cases as well as other serious crimes such as corruption and transnational crime.

--Regulations and guidelines aimed at countering corruption and money laundering, encouraging the use of asset forfeiture and bringing Moldova's legislation into line with international standards are adopted.

--The task force approach is used where appropriate and effective for example, prosecutors integrate successfully into the CCTIP, and anti-corruption prosecutors work closely with investigators within the CCECC.

--Moldovan law enforcement and NGOs work collaboratively with their counterparts in relevant destination and transit countries to obtain cooperation in investigation and prosecutions of TIP and other transborder cases, including witness and victim support and protection.

F. Sustainability

18. Reform of the Prosecutorial Service:

By its nature, successful institutional reforms within the Prosecutorial Service will be self-perpetuating. This includes overhauling management and administrative systems and procedures covering areas such as hiring and disciplinary guidelines, case management and professional ethics. In addition, by introducing new

courses for prosecutors covering key substantive and procedural topics into the curriculum of the NIJ (the official academy for training prosecutors and judges), these courses will become integrated into the regular schedule for long-term sustainability.

Similarly, providing intensive study internships to select candidates of the NIJ will create a core group of highly qualified and trained professionals well versed in more modern and proactive approaches to investigating and prosecuting crime. These individuals will be thoroughly equipped to pass along their substantive expertise, both in formal training sessions as well as in on-the-job mentoring of colleagues.

19. Anti-Corruption/Financial Crime Components:

--In February 2005, and in subsequent amendments in 2007, the GOM

has supported a National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Plan that commits the Government to comprehensive reform in almost all arenas. As a result of assistance from the Council of Europe, Transparency International, the Alliance of Anti-Corruption NGOs, the CCECC, and the USG, some aspects of this plan are in place, demonstrating an apparent commitment of the GOM to reduce corruption.

--GOM leadership has shown strong interest in providing Moldovan legal and law enforcement officials with the tools to fight corruption. Such commitment is a critical component of the effort to build a viable nationwide anti-corruption effort, and make Moldova a reliable and capable partner of the United States in the long-term.

¶20. Anti-Trafficking Components:

--The creation of a cadre of Moldovan expert trainers on the new TIP law as well as a cadre of legal and law enforcement TIP specialists at the CCTIP will ensure the legislation's proper and effective implementation over the long-term. Continued attention to the refinement of anti-TIP legislation and practice, through amendments and policy review, will help overcome obstacles to effective enforcement.

--The resources and training programs furnished by the USG in support of the CCTIP will help consolidate anti-trafficking efforts in Moldova as well as enhance capabilities of CCTIP personnel.

Timeline

¶21. Timeline for this proposal is one year, with continuation for some projects expected in FY2010 and beyond.

Evaluation

¶22. The RLA will continually evaluate goals and performance indicators for both components and will make program adjustments, in consultation with INL, as appropriate. The RLA will report to INL on an ongoing basis.

Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶20. Components are:

--Law Enforcement Capacity Development Project

--Estimated Cost: \$100,000

--Priority: Priority two out of four projects

Background to the Request

¶21. Moldovan law enforcement bodies, in cooperation with Post, continue to develop their nascent abilities. For the region though,

Moldova's law enforcement entities remain under-funded, ill-equipped, and poorly trained. The presence of organized and transnational crime groups in Moldova has only a tangential impact on the interests of the United States and likely is not an immediate threat to the stability of Moldova. However, for the Moldovan state to mature to a

level of development comparable with its European neighbors, it must significantly improve the basic capabilities of its police. Such improvement, and gaining of European acceptance as a law enforcement partner, is a critical piece of Post's Mission Strategic Plan.

¶22. In 2007, President Voronin called on the police services of Moldova to modernize in conformity with western standards. The EU-Moldova Action Plan specifically called for Moldova to cooperate with regional law enforcement partners and to enhance its abilities to address drug problems, illegal migration issues, and border security deficiencies. The Law Enforcement Capacity Development Project will support these EU-Moldova Action Plan items by providing the GOM with increased police technical and training assistance.

¶23. In the 2000-2004 period, a DOJ-ICITAP Basic Law Enforcement Program provided basic police skills training, providing the framework from which to provide more specialized capacity-development initiatives. ICITAP continues to move forward a 2008 a project involving the establishment of the first-ever forensics laboratory in Moldova. Currently, the GOM has no facilities or forensics/technical capabilities to investigative computer and cyber crimes. This project will provide Moldovan law enforcement with specialized equipment and training.

¶24. From 2005 through 2008, the Law Enforcement Capacity Development Project delivered several training sessions in addressing money laundering and terrorism financing, border security and interdiction, narcotics investigations, general and border-specific explosives ordnance detection and post-blast investigations, cyber crime investigations, organized/transnational crime investigations, and on-going language courses. Through this project, specialized equipment, including vehicles and computers, was donated to complement the professional development programs.

¶25. This project will complement assistance efforts by other government agencies and international organizations. While the U.S. is by far the largest, and in many specialized areas the only donor providing this type of assistance, a key component to the project will provide Moldovan law enforcement with the tools to maximize the energies, resources, and information culled from regional and international law enforcement entities such as the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), GUAM (a regional cooperative between Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova), INTERPOL, EUROPOL and the EU Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM).

¶26. Improving the capacity of law enforcement in Moldova is directly linked to the Law Enforcement, Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Corruption goal of the Embassy's Mission Strategic Plan. In this sense, this project will promote USG foreign policy objectives in the area of Governing Justly and Democratically, Achieving Peace and Security, and Promoting International Understanding.

Goal

¶27. The goal of this capacity development project is to modernize Moldovan law enforcement by improving its ability to investigate and

effectively prosecute serious crimes that stem largely from transnational organized crime. This goal is directly linked to assisting Moldova achieve success in its effort to join the European Union. Overall project strategies will continue to be linked directly to the EU-Moldova Action Plan law enforcement goals. We consider the project goal to be multi-year in nature.

Project Description

¶28. The Embassy's RSO will have primary oversight for this project and will continue to be responsible for approving the purchase of any equipment for this project (with concurrence from INL and an Embassy law enforcement working group). The RSO will monitor goals and performance indicators, make program adjustments, and report program evaluations to Washington.

¶29. Using a variety of USG service providers, and coordinating closely with INL, the Embassy plans to provide professional development courses which build on EU-Moldova Action Plan goals linked to modernizing Moldovan law enforcement. Specialized programs will be provided in the areas of explosive ordinance detection, financial crimes, money laundering, cyber crimes (complementing the ongoing ICITAP computer/cyber forensics laboratory program), general forensics investigations, border security and interdiction, transnational narcotics trafficking, and police/law enforcement leadership and management. In addition, the Embassy will continue to provide a modest law enforcement-specific English language program to appropriate officers. The train-the-trainer methodology will be used for all programs delivered. Throughout the program, the Embassy will coordinate closely with international entities also involved in providing assistance to Moldova.

¶30. All GOM officials who participate in INL-supported training programs will be Leahy-vetted per USG regulations. The timeframe for this project is estimated to be one year. The desired result, directly linked to EU-Moldova Action Plan law enforcement goals, is to increase Moldovan law enforcement's capacity and to improve overall security in the region.

Performance Indicators

¶31. Performance will be measured by an examination of the investigation, arrest, and prosecution statistics for units that receive the assistance, with an understanding that due process concerns and the presumption of innocence are critical factors in a successful law enforcement system. The Embassy will conduct annual comparisons to identify improvements and will note any major successes (i.e., via appropriate case reviews, briefings with police, etc.) that can be attributed to project activities. Performance will also be measured in terms of the qualitative level (assessed by the Embassy and international partners) of GOM collaboration with the international law enforcement and political entities.

Sustainability

¶32. Program sustainability will grow as GOM officers who receive instruction pass along new techniques through the train-the-trainer

methodology. After the expiration of this program in one year, GOM LE capabilities and resources will have been improved. This advance in Moldovan law enforcement capacity should parallel improvements in legislation, and judicial, and prosecutorial capabilities through the efforts of the FSA/INL-funded Resident Legal Advisor Project and the FSA/INL-funded ABA ROLI (American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative) Criminal Law Reform Project.

¶33. The RSO will be responsible for encouraging the Government of Moldova to keep trainees in relevant positions, use delivered equipment as intended, and assuring that results attributable to the assistance can be demonstrated.

Timeline

¶34. The timeline for this project is estimated to be one year. Post expects project objectives to be met at the end of FY10. The Embassy envisions the need for continued funding into 2011 to build on the accomplishments of this project. Indeed, the Embassy is certain that increased funding in this area would realize significant improvements in Moldovan law enforcement and the concerns of the United States.

Evaluation

¶35. The Embassy will evaluate this project via RSO monitoring and reporting. The RSO will conduct regular, formal program management reviews. Performance indicators will be reviewed regularly and program adjustments will be implemented as appropriate and with the

concurrence of INL.

Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶36. Components are:

--Title: ABA Criminal Law Reform Project

--Estimated Cost: \$200,000

--Priority: Priority three out of four projects

Background to the Request

¶37. Moldova has moved beyond the initial stages of reform. It inherited a Soviet-style inquisitorial legal system but adopted various changes to make criminal trials more adversarial. It is a member of the Council of Europe and has ratified many international

treaties. The reform process continues, at least on paper, with amendments to existing laws and the adoption of new laws addressing

areas of concern. Nonetheless, the rule of law in Moldova suffers serious shortcomings, with widespread human rights abuses and evidence of poor will and capacity to investigate and prosecute corruption and financial crimes. Moldova has lost more than 120 cases at the European Court of Human Rights, reflecting violations of norms prohibiting torture, guaranteeing criminal trial rights and mandating the enforcement of judgments.

¶38. The biggest challenge facing Moldova is the effective implementation of the laws already adopted. This will require government resources, a significant reduction in corruption, and a change in the justice system so that individual rights are reliably respected. On-going ambitions for European integration provide the government with significant incentives and support to give actual life to the paper reforms.

Goal

¶39. To encourage criminal justice reform by increasing the promotion of access to justice for Moldovan citizens and increasing the capacity of the criminal justice system to combat crime.

Project Description

¶40. Funding will support ABA ROLI staff and programmatic expenses, including an American Criminal Law Legal Specialist and national staff attorney(s) who work with government agencies, NGOs and the defense bar to provide technical assistance, advocacy and skills training, and raise awareness of international standards in criminal justice. The project will continue to coordinate closely with the Embassy's Resident Legal Advisor and other international organizations and donors to maximize the impact of its work. The host government will be asked to provide trainers and participants for programs and to give ABA ROLI the opportunity to provide technical assistance on legislation and other matters.

¶41. Activities will include the following:

--Preparing a new generation of legal professionals through specialized training programs and materials, including human rights

trainings and collaboration with the Resident Legal Advisor on pretrial detention, plea bargaining and other pertinent training topics;

--Improving the self administrative capacity of the Moldova Bar Association (MBA) to enable it to effectively carry out attorney licensing, training and discipline, concentrating on improving standards for bar admission; completing a handbook on how to become a lawyer in Moldova; and advising on ways to improve the system of attorney discipline in resolving ethical complaints against lawyers;

--Supporting reform of the criminal justice system through training and development of the defense bar, with particular emphasis on promoting human rights as well as assisting with legislative reform

through the harmonization of Moldovan laws with international norms.

¶E. Performance Indicators

¶42. Performance indicators include:

--Defense attorneys improve their understanding of how to apply the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Code of Ethics, ECHR jurisprudence and other human rights standards as demonstrated by training evaluations and post-training surveys.

--The MBA takes steps to improve standards for practicing attorneys, such as, for example, setting/and or enforcing a national requirement for a minimum number of continuing legal education credits per year.

--The host government identifies legislative changes needed to harmonize its criminal justice laws with international norms and takes steps to amend its laws, giving due consideration to commentaries and/or other consultative advice submitted by ABA-Moldova.

F. Sustainability

¶43. The training and technical assistance component of this project is designed to be sustainable by improving the capacity of Moldovan lawyers to function more effectively and to train their own ranks.

The legislative reform component will result in the adoption of higher quality laws which, when implemented, will improve the operation of the criminal justice system.

Timeline

¶44. The timeline for this proposal is one year.

Evaluation

¶45. The ABA Criminal Law Reform project will submit regular reports as required to the Embassy and INL. This project will be evaluated against the performance indicators detailed above.

Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶46. Title, cost, and priority are as follows:

--Title: [To be determined: Post is working with INL and EUR/ACE to determine the best use of the funds and Post will send a short follow-up cable with the details of the future program(s).]

--Estimated Cost: \$227,480

--Priority: Priority four out of four projects

A. Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶47. Components are:

--Title: Program Development and Support (PD&S) for INL FSN

--Estimated Cost: \$50,000

--Priority: N/A

Background to the Request

¶48. Program development and support funds for FY2009 for one LES positions total \$50,000. INL does not have a dedicated officer assigned to the Embassy. Post envisions this funding obligation to continue in FY2010 and beyond and estimates that in 2010 or later an additional LES staff member would be beneficial to the program.

Title/Estimated Cost/Priority

¶49. Components are:

--Title: Program Development and Support (PD&S) for Washington Support Costs

--Estimated Cost: \$46,920 (3.4% of entire program)

--Priority: N/A

Background to the Request

150. Program development and support funds for FY2008 for Washington support total \$46,920.

CHAUDHRY